

crucial first job to young people and other disadvantaged workers—while generating some 44 percent of all sales and 39 percent of our GNP. Today, as we look toward the vast frontier that is the 21st century, we know that small business men and women will continue to play a vital role in moving the United States forward to even greater heights of prosperity and progress.

In the future, the success of American small business will have increasing impact around the globe. Indeed, as they strive to overcome impoverishment and stagnation imposed by years of totalitarian rule, more and more of the world's emerging democracies are looking to the United States as a model of private initiative and market principles in action. Hence, it is important that we continue to promote a climate in which small businesses can thrive. This means alleviating the high cost of capital and the heavy burden of excessive government regulation, which stifle investment and creativity. Encouraging the success of small business will also require a continuing commitment to excellence in education, which is vital to producing workers who have the knowledge and skills that are necessary to excel in the increasingly competitive global marketplace. Today, it is gratifying to note that many small businesses have joined in support of AMERICA 2000, our comprehensive strategy to achieve our National Education Goals.

From their daily contributions toward our local and national economies to their generous participation in voluntary community service programs and other worthwhile endeavors, small business men and women are helping to build a better America for all of us. Thus, these enterprising individuals richly deserve our support and thanks.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim the week of May 10 through May 16 as Small Business Week. I urge all Americans to join me in saluting our Nation's small business men and women by observing this week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twelfth day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and sixteenth.

GEORGE BUSH

**Proclamation 6436 of May 15, 1992**

## **Bicentennial of the New York Stock Exchange, 1992**

*By the President of the United States of America*

### *A Proclamation*

When 24 New York merchants and brokers gathered on May 17, 1792, to establish rules of conduct for the exchange of securities and to buy and sell orders for those who wanted to trade, they laid the foundation for what is now one of the largest stock exchanges in the world. Today the New York Stock Exchange handles, on average, more than 200 million shares daily and plays a major role in the unique self-regulatory system that aids in the enforcement of the Nation's securities laws. At

a time when the peoples of newly emerging democracies are working to establish market economies and to promote the capital formation and investment that are cornerstones of prosperity and progress, we take special pride in the 200th anniversary of the New York Stock Exchange and in the many contributions that the NYSE has made to the development of the United States.

The New York Stock Exchange is, in many ways, a symbol of our Nation's free enterprise system and of the opportunities for savings and investment it provides to all of our citizens. Led by a private board of directors and regulated by the Securities and Exchange Commission, the NYSE offers an efficient market for the trading of securities, thereby facilitating the purchase and sale of stocks, options, futures, and other innovative financial contracts. By providing a vehicle by which businesses can acquire capital and by enabling individual and corporate investors to select portfolios that best fit their needs, the New York Stock Exchange has helped to finance the development of American industry and technology and, in so doing, contributed to the creation of countless jobs.

With 200 years of experience and growth behind them, members of today's New York Stock Exchange are helping to promote American principles of free enterprise around the world. As the economies of the United States and other nations become increasingly interdependent, and as advances in communications and other technologies transform financial markets, the future of the NYSE promises to be as eventful and as distinguished as its past.

The Congress, by Senate Joint Resolution 254, has recognized May 17, 1992, as the bicentennial of the New York Stock Exchange and has requested the President to issue a proclamation in recognition of this occasion.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby invite all Americans to observe May 17, 1992, the bicentennial of the New York Stock Exchange, in recognition of that institution's role in promoting the economic vitality and growth of the United States.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fifteenth day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and sixteenth.

GEORGE BUSH

**Proclamation 6437 of May 18, 1992**

**Older Americans Month, 1992**

*By the President of the United States of America  
A Proclamation*

The heart of a nation may well be judged by the amount of respect that it has for its elders. Accordingly, when we pause to honor older Americans, the men and women who have helped to keep the United States free, strong, and prosperous, we show that we are a grateful people.